



REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were pending. Upon entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 3-12 will be cancelled. New claims 13-61 are herein submitted for examination. Following this amendment, claims 1-2 and 13-61 will be pending. Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip H. Albert
Reg. No. 35,819

3/15/00
Date

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
PHA:elc
SF 1039234 v1